# **UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES**



#### **Types, Trends, and Harm**

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### Anatomy of an Unauthorized Disclosure

#### Who?

•Current and Former Employees

•Current and Former Contractors

•Consumers of Intelligence

#### What?

•Information Concerning Intelligence Sources and Methods

- •National Defense Information (as defined by statute)
- •Technical Collection Capabilities
- •Covert Actions
- •Foreign Intelligence and Counterintelligence Information Why?

#### **Classifying Information**

- Executive Order 12958
- Internal Agency Regulations and Handbooks

• Original Classification versus Derivative Classification

• Original – an initial determination -- made by a limited number of authorized individuals -- that information requires protection from unauthorized disclosure

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• Derivative – incorporating, paraphrasing, restating, or generating in a new form information that is already classified (e.g., classification based on a classification guide)

#### **Classifying Information**

- The Classification Process
  - Categories of information and relative sensitivity defined by individual with Original Classification authority
  - When document with information in these categories is created, it is classified according to its Original Classification. This process is Derivative Classification.
  - If information does not fall within previously established category, information is reviewed by individual with Original Classification authority for proper classification.

# **Classifying Information: FAQs**

• What information may be considered for classification?

- Information defined under Sec. 1.5 of Executive Order 12958
- Information protected by statute, e.g., National Security Act, the Atomic Energy Act
- At what sensitivity level?
  - Sec. 1.3 and Sec. 1.4 of Executive Order 12958 define the classification level for information and restrict delegations of original classification authority for certain classes of information
- What information may not be considered for classification?
  - Sec. 1.8 of Executive Order 12958 prohibits classification of certain types of information and identifies impermissible reasons for classification
- May classification decisions be challenged and, if so, by whom?
  - Authorized holders of information may challenge classification decisions as provided by Sec. 1.9 of Executive Order 12958

### **Types of UDs**

#### **Current Statutory Restrictions**

- National Defense Information 18 U.S.C. §§ 793(d), 793(e), 794
- Photographs of Defense Installations 18 U.S.C. § 797
- Information Concerning Communications Intelligence and Cryptographic Activities – 18 U.S.C. § 798
- Information Relating to Diplomatic Codes 18 U.S.C. § 952
- Unauthorized Removal and Retention of Classified Documents or Material 18 U.S.C. § 1924
- Restricted Data on Atomic Energy 42 U.S.C. §§ 2274, 2277
- Identity of Covert Agents 50 U.S.C. § 421
- Classified Information to Agents of Foreign Governments or Members of Communist Organizations – 50 U.S.C. § 783(b)

# **Types of UDs**

#### **Current Statutory Gaps?**

- Foreign Government Information
- Intelligence Sources and Methods
- Covert Actions
- Foreign Liaison Relationships
- Counterintelligence Capabilities
- Narcotics Trafficking and Money-Laundering Intelligence

#### **UD Trends**

- Approximately 50 referrals related to unauthorized disclosures to the Department of Justice from various Executive Branch Agencies for each of the last several years
- Approximately 20 to 25 criminal investigations per year by the Department of Justice
- Enhanced information security and other methods employed to aid in identification of leakers

#### **UD Damage**

"The damage caused by leakers can be every bit as great as the damage caused by espionage."

-- George J. Tenet, Director of Central Intelligence

- Danger to Human Assets
- Harm to Foreign Liaison Relationships
- Compromise of Technical Collection Systems
- Exposure of Intelligence and Counterintelligence Methods

## **UD Remedies**

- Media Cooperation in Not Seeking, Not Publishing, and Removing Classified Information
- Administrative Penalties
  - •Reprimand
  - •Suspension Without Pay
  - •Decrease in Grade
  - •Revocation of Security Clearance
  - •Separation
- Civil Liability
  - Injunctive Relief or Monetary Damages
- Criminal Liability